



**Kenai Kodiak Area Forestry
&
Kenai Interagency Dispatch Center**

**2010
Orientation
Guide**

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Welcome

The Kenai-Kodiak Area Office (KKAO) and Kenai Interagency Dispatch Center is located one and one half miles east of the “Y” in Soldotna at Mile 92.5 Sterling Highway. We are serving the entire Kenai Peninsula from the beginning of the peninsula at the head of Turnagain Arm to Seward and all the way down to Homer Spit. We include the Kodiak Islands to the Southwest of us.

The Kenai Peninsula has diverse topography from flat to rolling to mountainous terrain. The Peninsula is bordered by the glaciated Kenai Mountains to the east and Cook Inlet on the west, north, and south. Kodiak and its adjoining islands are mostly mountainous, rugged country.

The Peninsula is a renowned sport fishing and recreational area, creating a large influx of summer tourists. Wildland/urban interface incidents are common in this area. A total of 3.9 million acres are in either Critical or Full protection categories, thus emphasizing the relatively high economic value of the Kenai Peninsula area. Existing fuel types of beetle kill, snags, grass, and slash, will add to make fire fighting challenging, and extreme fire behaviors. Most of these Full or Critical areas are a shared mutual response with the local fire departments, US Forest Service and the US Fish and Wildlife. Protection responsibility for any suppression of wildland is identified by the 2010 Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan actuates the need for an efficient, cooperative relationship with all cooperators.

In addition to the wildfire suppression responsibilities in its jurisdiction, the State manages a burn permit program in much of the Area. This program is administered by the prevention staff and is a free service that benefits landowners and Forestry alike. By monitoring the burning in the Area, it reduces the amount of false alarm call outs and hazardous burning situations. Burn permits are required from April 1st to August 31st by State Statute.

The Kenai Interagency Dispatch Center (KIDC) is now in its second year and all fire and resource dispatching for the USFS-Chugach NF, USFWS Kenai National Wildlife Refuge and the Kenai-Kodiak Area State Forestry are handled from this center.

WEATHER AND LOCAL INFLUENCES

Weather on the Peninsula ranges from a coastal maritime influence around Homer and Cook Inlet to a hotter, drier inland influence centered around the Sterling area.

Kodiak and the other islands have a predominant coastal maritime influence and generally receive enough rainfall in the summer to keep fire danger at a minimum. The greatest fire danger in Kodiak occurs in

March and April, before green-up, due to the abundance of dead grass at the lower elevations.

Fire activity in Homer in early spring is due to the drying of grass overstory and an abundance of dead and down Spruce beetle kill.

A large number of starts is due to human causes.



Caribou Hills 2007

Critical Sites: There are numerous critical sites throughout the Kenai-Kodiak area. These include residential and recreational homes, historic cabins archeological, cultural and industrial sites.

FIRE HISTORY AND PROTECTION LEVELS

Ownership: The majority of lands are owned/managed by the Federal government, including U.S. fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. There are also regional native corporations and some scattered state and borough lands. Larger parcels of state land are part of the state parks system. In Full and Critical protection areas there exists a lot of privately owned property.

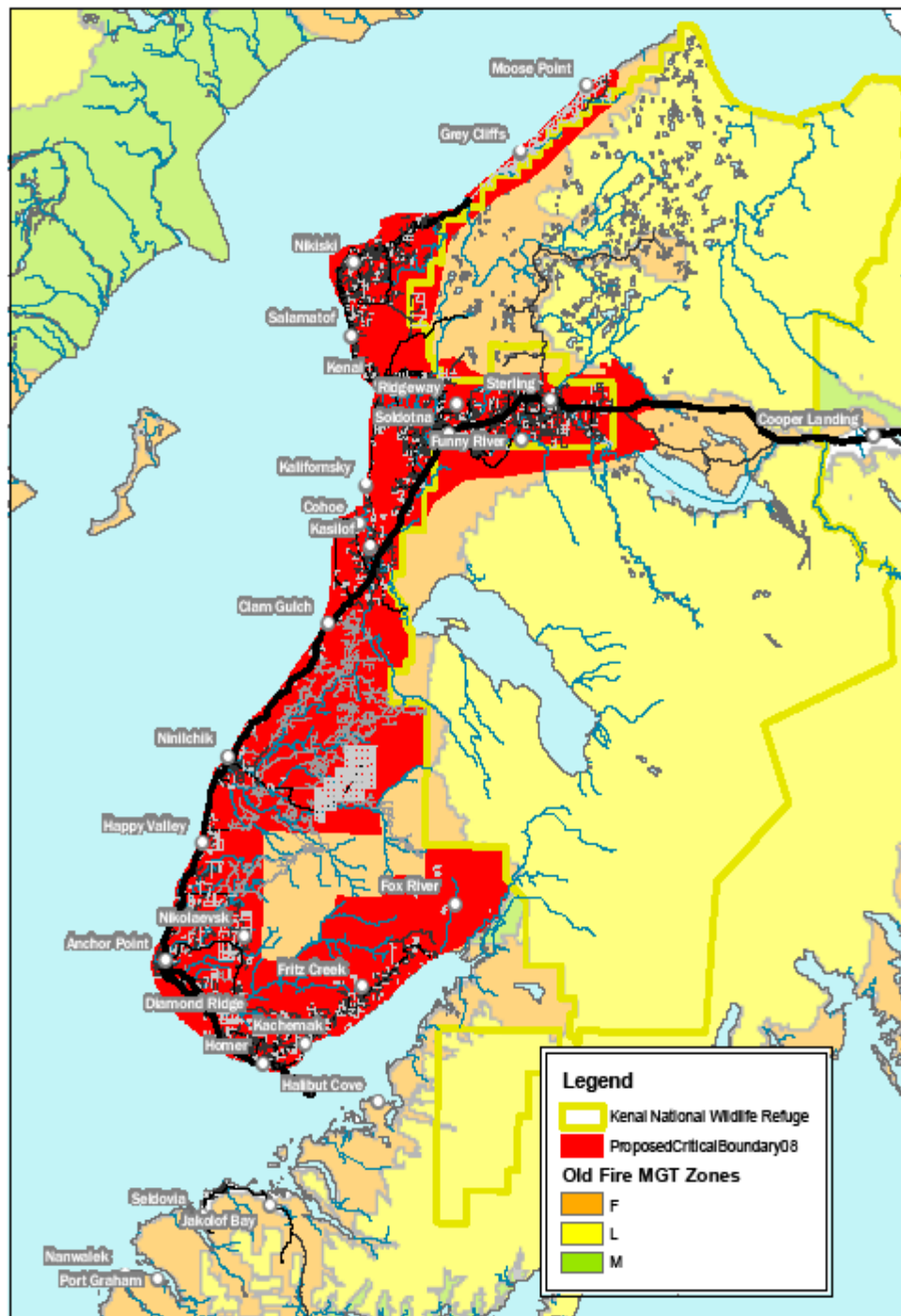
Protection Levels in the Kenai-Kodiak Area:

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| Critical | 0.4 MM Acres |
| Full | 3.5 MM Acres |
| Modified | 1.8 MM Acres |
| Limited | 6.1 MM Acres |
| TOTAL | 11.8 MM Acres |

Occurrence and Frequency: The Area has had an average of 51 fires per year based on the period of fifteen years. The years 1992, 1993, and 1996 each had over 100 fires. The highest acreage year was 2007 with 56,835 acres (56,254 acres at Caribou Hills). Other high acreage years include 2005, with 41,846 acres burned (25,180 acres at Fox Creek, 10,131 acres at King County Creek, and 5,400 acres at Tracy Avenue), 1996 with 28,217 acres burned, and 1997 with 14,247 acres burned.

Escaped controlled burns are the leading cause of wildfires on the Kenai, with campfires a close second. The primary reason for the fire escapements is the lack of an adequate mineral soil firebreak around the fire. Campfires are common due to the Area's high recreational use and become a wildfire risk when built in the prevalent peat or duff areas. Even with application of water, these fires are difficult to completely extinguish.

Draft Critical Fire Management Zone 2008 West Side Kenai Peninsula



New Critical Fire Management Zone to include all of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) identified in Community Wildfire Protection Planning Process (CWPP) on the East side of Kenai Peninsula.

This is not a Draft



Tract 3 Road

Fire season in the Kenai-Kodiak Area usually begins in late March to mid-April. From late March to the end of May, the entire Area has the potential for fast moving grass fires. In early June, green-up is usually complete, and the problem fuel type becomes black spruce and stands of beetle kill spruce. The month of June is usually the hottest and driest of the

summer. May and June are historically the busiest two months of the season for the Kenai-Kodiak Area. Late season (September) fires caused by moose and sheep hunters are also common in the Area

Cooperators: State Forestry cooperates with several federal agencies on the Peninsula. The U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife and State Forestry will respond with closest resources in the area for initial attack of fires. Kenai Interagency Dispatch will assist the Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the Kenai-Kodiak Area on wild land fires within the jurisdiction of each agency. The Kenai-Kodiak Area has entered into cooperative agreements with some 26 fire departments on the Kenai Peninsula and Kodiak Island.



Mile 17 East End

Initial Attack

The Kenai-Kodiak Area has fire operations personnel and equipment at 2 locations on the Kenai Peninsula. The Soldotna facility is the headquarters station and routinely staffs 2 type 6 six packs engines and a medium helicopter. An additional type 6 six pack is available for staffing, depending on weather indices, which drive our Staffing and Action Guide.

In addition to putting a 3rd type 6 into service when indices warrant, we also increase Soldotna's engine and helitack module manpower, with a combination of detailers and EFF. A short hand crew squad of EFF can also be hired on as needed.

The Homer office routinely staffs 2 type 6 engines; as indices increase, manpower is increased using a combination of detailers and EFF; a third engine, helicopter and dozers can be prepositioned if indices warrant.

Engine and helitack assignments are made by the Suppression Foreman on a daily basis. Normal workdays for operations staff are from 10:00 to 18:00, with a half-hour lunch break. Weekend staffing is dictated by our weather indices. Operations staff have a daily schedule as follows:

10:00-12:00 Engine Checks, PT,
Operations Briefing

12:00-18:00 Patrols, Training or
project work

Kenai Interagency Dispatch Center will be staffed 7 days a week 8:00 to 18:00 through the fire season, and during any extended staffing KIDC will also extend .



The Kenai-Kodiak Area enjoys a close working relation with its many Peninsula Fire Department cooperators, and the majority of our IA fires are in the Wildland Urban Interface. Under the new Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan for 2010 we will be responding with the closest available units which include USFS, USFWS or DOF agency resources.



Most of our fires require progressive hoselays, and often there is a structure protection component. Bucket support and aerial observation are typical components provided by KKAO helitak and fixed wing support from Palmer. Our fuels vary from blue joint grass to bug kill Spruce, much of which is down. This mix of fuel types has the Kenai Peninsula emerging as one of the more challenging Areas for wildland fires

KKAO technicians also provide manpower for ongoing fire prevention and firewise programs, as well as ongoing training scheduled for our cooperators.



The operations staff is a progressive friendly team, with a can do attitude. We have the additional support of the neighboring agencies' equipment and fire staff.

Commo -- The Area's helicopter has pre-programmed channels. When obtaining another helicopter to work in this Area, reprogramming of the VHF radio may be necessary. Complete frequency charts are available in dispatch.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| DOF State Channel A | TX/RX 159.270/151.265 |
| State Forestry Air to Ground | 132.45 |
| AFS, DOF Air-to-Air | 128.45 |
| Emergency (ELT) Transmitter | 121.50 |
| Air Guard | 168.625 |



Fuel: In Soldotna there is a 2000 gallon Jet A tank at the Forestry helibase. Fuel is usually available commercially at the following locations, but dispatch should call ahead to confirm:

Homer: Maritime Helicopters, Pathfinder's Aviation
Seward: Harbor Air
Kenai Lake (Lawing Field): USFS drum fuel
Kodiak: Maritime Helicopters, Andrew Airways
Kenai Airport Crowley Petroleum Services
(See page 24 for numbers)

Kenai Tanker Base

The Kenai Tanker Base is located on the northeast side of the Kenai Municipal Airport. Access to the Tanker Base is the next gate past Kenai Airport Fire Dept. on Willow Street. There is a green trailer on the site that has flight hazard maps and local maps available. Keys for vehicles assigned to the site and a site information folder are located inside the trailer. Kenai FSS and the FAA tower are within walking distance to the site. 100 LL and jet fuel is available at Crowley Petroleum Services 283-4542. 24 hr. credit card automated pumps are available.

Contacts for Tanker Base

Regional Aviation Manager Dennis Ricker907-761-6229
Kenai Tanker Base – Lynn Baker.....907-283-3816
Kenai Tanker Base Fax..... 907-283-3916
KIDC Dispatch.....907-260-4232

Radio Frequencies

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Air to Ground | 132.45 VHF-AM |
| Air to Air | 128.45 VHF-AM |
| Kenai Tower | 121.30 VHF-AM |
| Kenai FSS | 122.65 VHF-AM |
| National Air Tanker | 123.975 AM |



BURN PERMIT INFORMATION

Burning permits are required from April 1 to August 31 for all open burning, except for cooking, warming, or signaling fires, and burning in an approved burn barrel. Alaska DEC requires that a permit be obtained for burning any substance causing black smoke, toxic gases, or odors which affect nearby persons, as well as land clearing over 40 acres.

Small-pile (Class A) permits may be obtained using the website:

<http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/>. Permits are free of charge. For large burning operations or within the listed city limits, contact the following agencies:

Division of Forestry 262-4200, or 235-7734

City of Kenai 283-7666

City of Seward, 224-3445

City of Homer, 235-3155

Kodiak Island, www.kodiak.ak.us

Permits may be suspended during periods of high fire danger. Permittees will be notified of the closure when they call-in to check-in the permit. During a suspension, campfires and approved burn barrels are allowed. When fire danger is extreme, Forestry may prohibit the lighting of all fires by way of a burn ban issued by the Commissioner of Natural Resources.

A Uniform Summons & Complaint will be issued if there is a violation of the Alaska Statutes: 41.15.050 to 41.15.150. The Complaint may be a written warning, but a prevention officer must be contacted if one of the following circumstances indicates a Citation to Court maybe necessary:

- 1) the person is a **previous offender** of a burning statute or regulation.
- 2) The fire has **escaped the landowner's property** to any degree and/or our office has spent or will spend 8 or more actual hours for the suppression and mop-up of the fire.
- 3) The **violation refuses to provide** the information necessary to complete a burn permit or refuses to correct a violation.
- 4) The violation involves **malicious or wanton setting** of fires – a felony, AS 41.15.150. The State will seek suppression cost recovery where conclusive evidence exists of a violation of the Alaska Statutes.

The Incident Commander should **Protect the Area of Origin** and complete a preliminary investigation of cause if a Fire Investigator is not assigned.

The Division of Forestry is proud to participate in the **FireWise Alaska** program. FireWise Alaska is a multi-agency cooperative effort to promote fire safety in Alaska. We have copies of the [FireWise Alaska](#) booklet and Forestry employees will assist landowners with home-site visits for risk/hazard assessment.

FireWise For All Seasons is an educational campaign for property owners that illustrates FireWise techniques that can be utilized year-round. The central themes are: **SPRING – Clean & Clear**; **SUMMER – Mow & Grow**; **FALL – Cut & Cover**; **WINTER – Light & Write** (to encourage participation in fire protection planning). We have brochures and educational materials for distribution promoting themes such as “Homes Won’t Burn If Homes Don’t Ignite” and “Keep Your Property Lean, Clean, and Green”.

FireWise Communities is a national program and a multi-agency effort designed to reach beyond the fire service by involving homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, and others in the effort to protect people, property, and natural resources from the risk of wildland fire - before a fire starts. Visit the [FireWise Communities](#) web site for more information.



Caribou Hills Fire — June 19, 2007

Staffing/ Extended Staffing

Staffing is based on the Planning Level and usually decided by the local FMO's. Extended staffing beyond the normal work day will be decided daily during the fire season by the FMO of Duty officer by 16:00 each day. It is based on factors influenced by weather Fire indices, fire activity locally and across the region.

Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) Indices

Modified for Kenai Peninsula / Kodiak Island based on local fire history

| | FFMC | DMC | DC | ISI | BUI | FWI |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|
| Low | 0 - 80 | < 20 | < 150 | 0 - 2 | < 26 | 0 - 3 |
| Moderate | 81 - 86 | 20 - 40 | 150 - 350 | 2 - 3 | 25 - 35 | 4 - 13 |
| High | 87 - 90 | 40 - 60 | 350 - 400 | 3 - 4 | 36 - 55 | 14 - 23 |
| Very High | 87 + | 60 + | 400 - 500 | 5 - 10 | 56 - 80 | 24 - 28 |
| Extreme | 91 + | 60 + | 500 + | 10 + | 81 + | 29 + |

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| FFMC | Fine Fuel Moisture Code |
| DMC | Duff Moisture Code |
| DC | Drought Code |
| ISI | Initial Spread Index |
| BUI | Build-Up Index |
| FWI | Fire Weather Index |

SAFETY FIRST:

Extensive Beetle-killed trees and grass present a safety concern for fast moving fires and limited mobility with jack-strawed dead and down trees. The dead spruce presents a high risk from falling snags. **Know your escape routes and safety zones.**

Duty Officer

FMO will be the primary duty officer and will handle DO responsibilities during normal office hours or whenever he is on duty.

The schedule for duty officer rotation is posted in the dispatch office and out in the front office. Dispatch will notify the AST of any deviation from



Fox Creek 2005

the schedule when it occurs. This message is also posted every evening on the TTY for the regional notification, and announced on the radio at close of business by dispatch. Since we are Interagency, the first contact will be the Dispatcher on call, who then will notify the appropriate Agency Duty Officer. Below are the individuals that will be on

the rotation schedule for KIDC contacts. The dispatcher on call will notify the appropriate Duty Officer.

Kenia Interagency Dispatch Center Contacts:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Dispatcher on Call | | 398-2183 |
| Office Dispatch | | 260-4232 |
| Carol Prior | 283-3931 | 398-6892 |
| Scott Swendsen | | 242-7986 |
| Diane Campbell | 262-2494 | 398-4823 |

Alaska Trooper dispatch will be notified to contact the Dispatcher on call number first.

Meals and Lodging

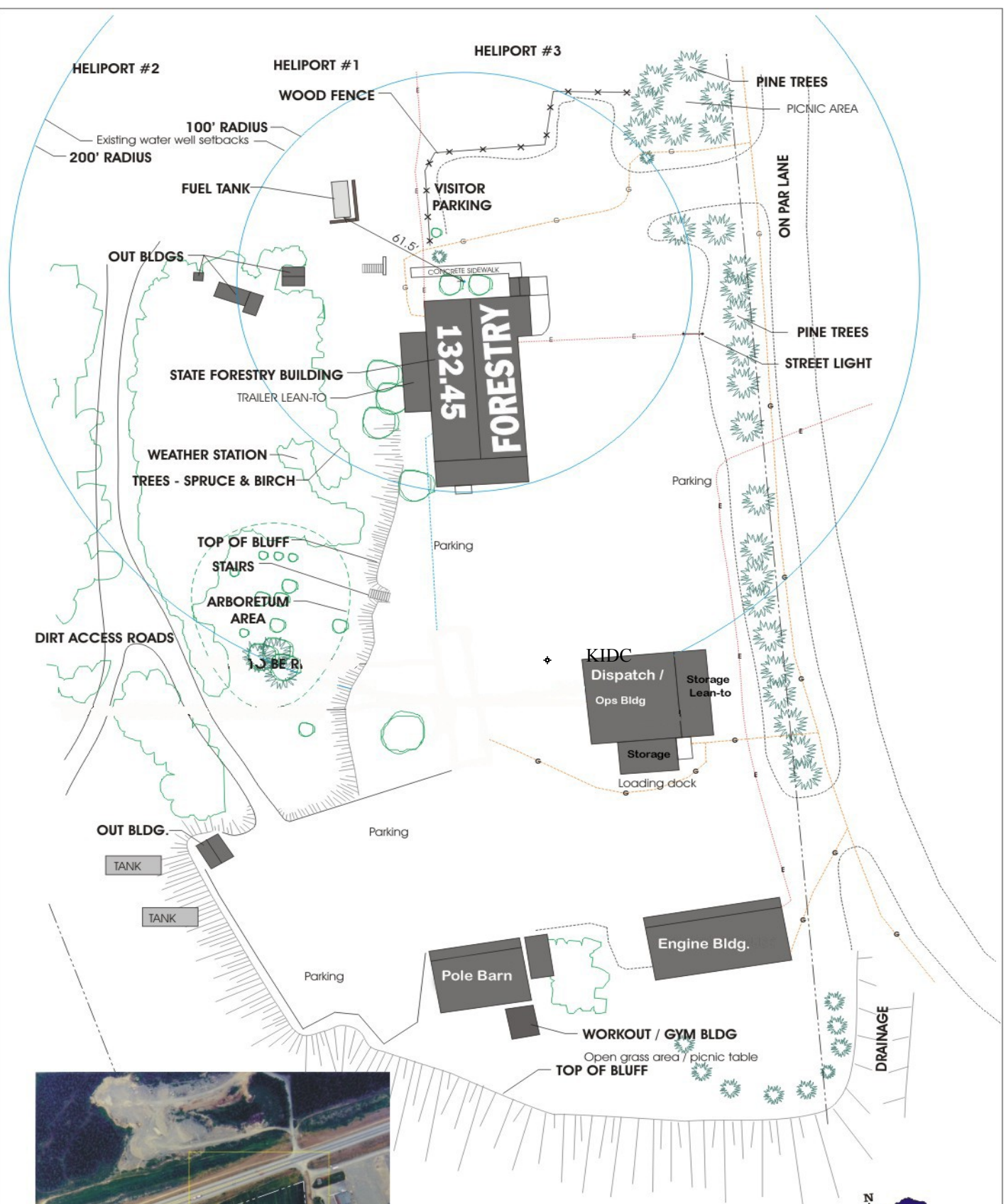
Meals and lodging will be arranged for out of area and subsisted personnel with local vendors. Meal coupons will be issued to personnel not on per-diem. Per diem is authorized by the KKAO Area Forester and can be reimbursed to the employee through the Travel Authorization System. Individuals are issued meal coupons that **cannot** be transferred to another person. The coupons are valid for only the day and amount shown on the face and the employee **should not pay taxes nor receive any change**.

The state will not pay for alcoholic beverages, tips or non-food items. Any charges for these things and any charges in excess of the meal allowance must be paid for by the employee. If you are issued a coupon and you do not use it, please return it to logistics so it can be cancelled as soon as possible. The meal coupon allowances for 2010 are:

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| Breakfast | \$12.00 |
| Lunch | \$16.00 |
| Dinner | \$32.00 |

Please advise the Logistics office if you encounter any difficulties or substandard facilities/services from any of the vendors for meals or lodging.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY |
| 62047 | Forestry Meal Coupon | | <input type="text"/> |  |
| DO NOT GIVE CHANGE | \$12 \$16 \$22 | NON TRANSFERABLE |  | |
| SAMPLE | | | | |
| (print) | Valid Only on Date: _____ | | | |
| User's Name: _____ | Authorized Signature: _____ | | Fire #: _____ | |
| | | | Division of Forestry | |
| DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY | DO NOT COPY |



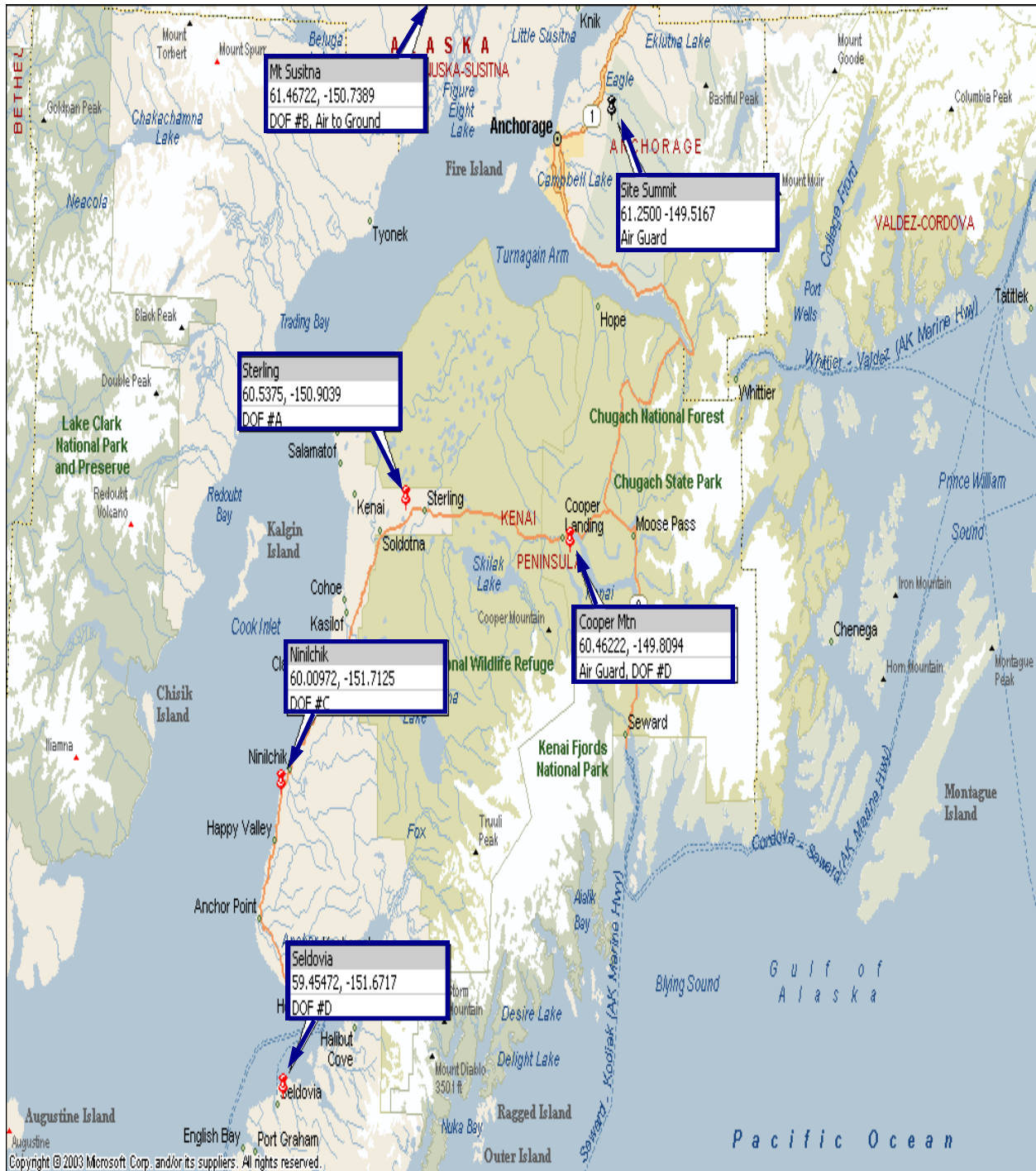
0 50 100 FEET +/-
Approx. Scale Base map was developed from aerial photo and ground measurements

EXISTING CONDITIONS

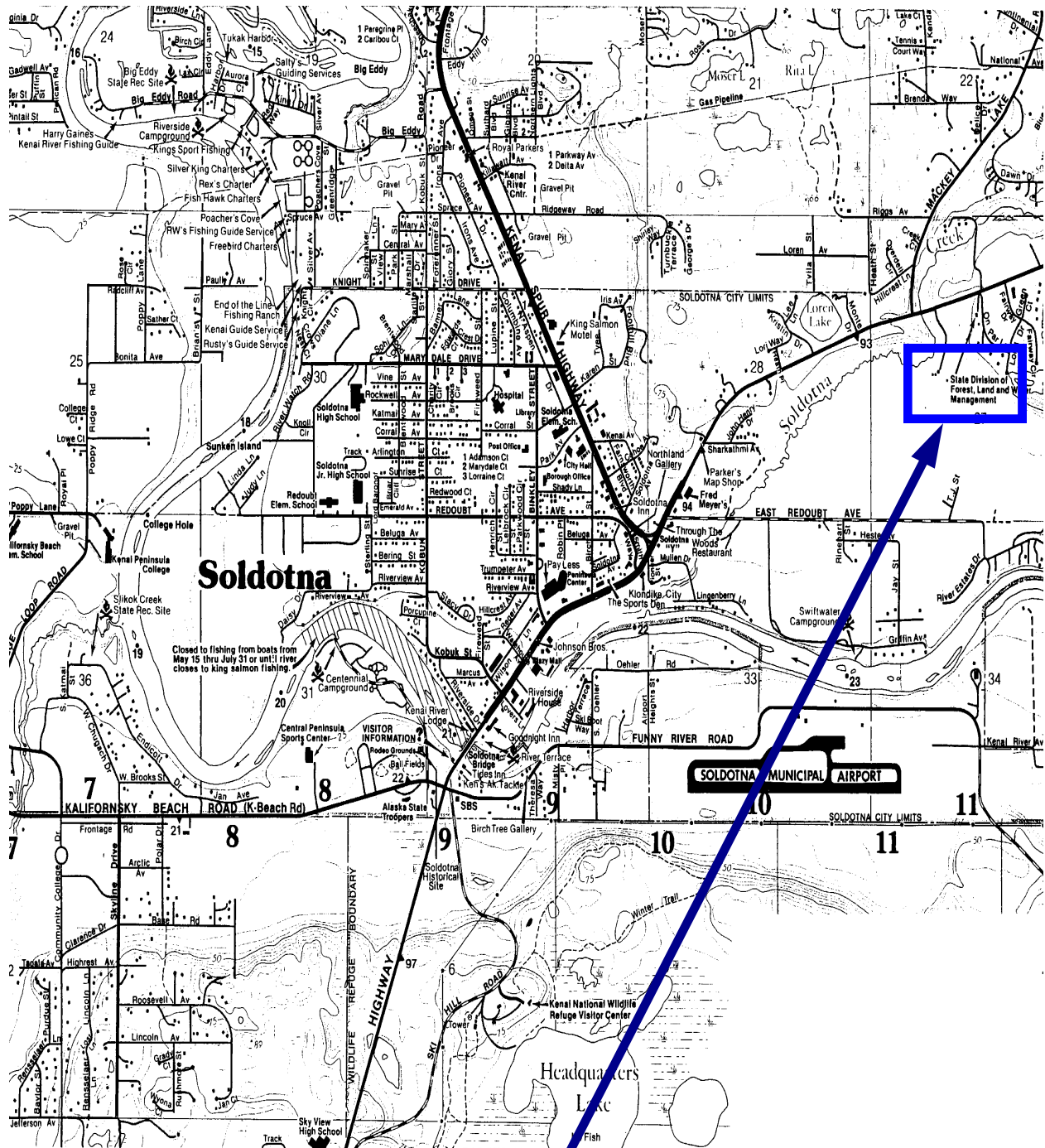
ALASKA STATE FORESTRY

KENAI / KODIAK AREA OFFICE

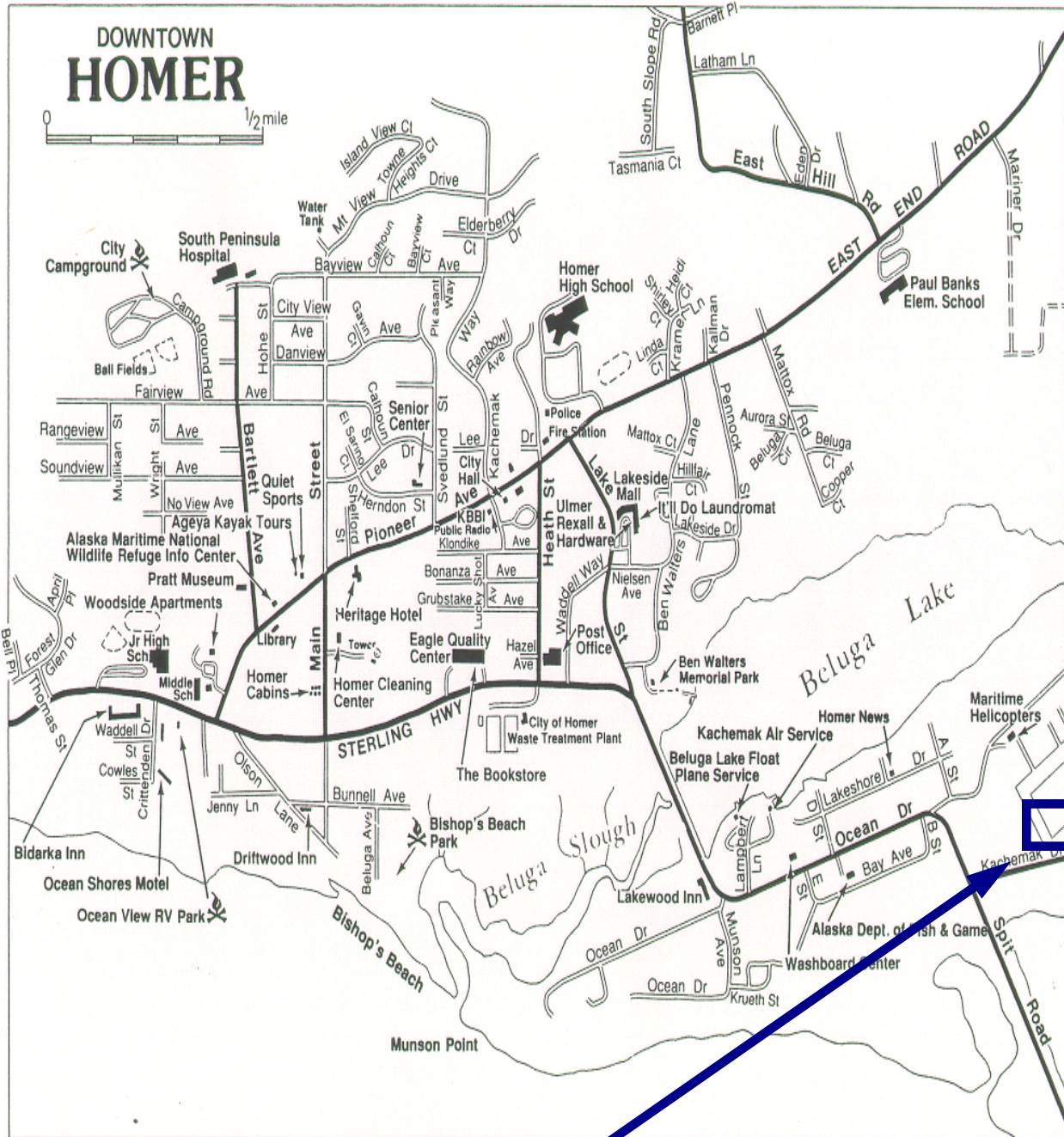
May 28, 2004 Drawn & Designed by: Bill Evans



KKAO Repeater Sites



State of Alaska – Division of Forestry
 Kenai Interagency Dispatch Center
 42499 Sterling Highway
 Soldotna, AK 99669
 Mile 92.5 Sterling Highway
 907-260-4200/907-260-4232



State of Alaska – Division of Forestry
Homer Station
2156 Kachemak Drive
Homer, AK 99603
907-235-7734

Kenai Kodiak Area Phone List 2010

| NAME | PHONE # | TITLE | STATE CELL | |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Adamson, Nick | 260-4237 | Engine Crewmember | 398-2705 | |
| Anderegg, Dale | 260-4280 | Helitack Foreman | 398-8819 | |
| Baker, Lynn | 283-3816 | Tanker Base | 252-2328 | |
| Campbell, Diane | 260-4231 | Dispatcher | 398-4823 | |
| Finley, Darren | 260-4271 | Engine Crewmember | | |
| Hayes, Mike | 260-4274 | Engine Crewmember | 394-2603 | |
| Hippchen, Rusty | 260-4240 | Maintenance Worker | 398-8113 | |
| Bill Hutto | 260-4222 | Assistant FMO | 398-4726 | |
| James, Matt | 235-7734 | Engine Foreman | 398-4716 | |
| Kent, Howie | 260-4220 | FMO | 394-2606 | |
| Mothershead, Jeremy | 235-7734 | Engine Crewmember | | |
| Moore, LeAna | 260-4202 | Admin Assistant | 398-9787 | |
| Parse, Nicos | 235-7734 | Engine Crewmember | | |
| Pellegrini, Paul | 260-4270 | Suppression Foreman | 299-0108 | |
| Prior, Carol | 260-4230 | KIDC Center Manager | 398-6892 | |
| Rinke, Hans | 260-4210 | Area Forester | 398-4732 | |
| Quiner, Patrick | 260-4281 | Helitack | 394-2601 | |
| Roesch, Sharon | 260-4260 | Fire Prevention Officer | 398-6041 | |
| Scales, Steve | 260-4214 | Training & Aviation | 394-2605 | |
| Short, Torrey | 235-7734 | Engine Crewmember | 394-2604 | |
| Swendsen, Scott | 260-4237 | KIDC Asst. Ctr. Mgr. | 242-7986 | |
| Taylor, Fiona | 260-4262 | Prevention Asst. | 398-1550 | |
| Weisz, Dan | 260-4276 | Engine Foreman | 394-2602 | |
| West, Britta | 2604275 | Engine Crewmember | | |
| White, Dan | 260-4272 | Engine Foreman | 398-1330 | |
| Winters, John | 260-4212 | Operations Forester | 398-2359 | |
| KIDC After hours | | Dispatcher on Call | 398-2183 | |

KKAO Phone List

State Troopers

Homer 235-3150
Soldotna 262-4453

EMERGENCY 911

State DOT

Homer 235-5218
Soldotna 262-4412

State Forestry

Soldotna 260-4200
KIDC Dispatch 260-4232/398-2183 24 hr.
Fax/Dispatch 260-4205/4236
Burn Permit Line 260-4269

FIRE Line 260-3473
Homer 235-7734

Police

Kenai 283-7879/80
Homer 235-3150
Soldotna 262-4455

DIV COM

Steve McMasters 269-5523/440-8615 c

Fire Departments

CES 262-4792
Kodiak 486-8040
Kenai 283-7666
Airport 283-7894
Homer 235-3155
Nikiski 283-4388/776-8400
Anchor Point 235-6700
Ninilchik 567-3342

Federal Cooperators

KLWC USFS 288-7732
Seward USFS 224-3374
KNWR USFWS 262-7021
Fire Shop USFWS 260-5994

Homer Electric

Homer 235-8551
24 Hour 235-8050
Kenai 283-5831
24 Hour Operations 283-2354

Enstar

Soldotna 262-9334

FSS

Kenai 283-7211/283-3735
Homer 235-8550

Fuel

Crowley Fuel 283-4542
Maritime Fuel 235-7771
Pathfinder Aviation 226-2800

Water

Homer Harbor Master 235-3160
City Water Works 235-3170

DEC

Oil Hazardous Spill 260-3063
1-800-478-9300
Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

KKAO Vehicle List

| Vehicle Description | | | Assigned To: |
|----------------------|---------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Suppression | | | |
| K-60 | V33297 | 1999 Ford 4X4 1 ¼ ton diesel | T6 Reserve |
| K-61 | V33220 | 1999 Ford 4X4 1 ¼ ton diesel | T6 Reserve |
| K-62 | V33208 | 1999 Ford 4X4 1 ¼ ton diesel | T6 Soldotna IA |
| K-63 | V37372 | 2009 Ford 4x4 6T | T6 Soldotna IA |
| K-64 | V37373 | 2009 Ford 4x4 6T | T6 Homer IA |
| K-65 | V37374 | 2009 Ford 4x4 6T | T6 Homer IA |
| K-70 | V35179 | 2004 Ford 4X4 ¾ ton ext cab p/u | T7 FMO |
| K-71 | V33513 | 2000 Dodge 4X4 ¾ ton ext cab p/u | T7 Prevention |
| K-72 | | | |
| K-73 | V34367 | 2002 Ford 4X4 ¾ ton crew cab p/u | T7 Suppression Foreman IA |
| Helicopter | | | |
| | | ERA Bell 212 509EH | 320 gal. Bambi Bkt. |
| Fire Support | | | |
| K-03 | V36407 | 2007 Ford F-350 4x4 stakebed | Warehouse |
| K-04 | V33843 | 2010 Dodge Ram 4x4 PU | Maintenance |
| K-05 | V30062 | 1981 Chevy X-cab PU | Kenai Retardant Site |
| K-06 | V31375 | Chevy 4X4 PU | Homer |
| K-07 | V33083 | Dodge 4x4 PU | Training / Aviation Forman |
| K-08 | V30846 | Chevy Suburban | Soldotna |
| K-09 | V33451 | 1998 Chevy Sedan | Maintenance |
| K-11 | V30268 | 1992 Chevy Astro Van | Firewise |
| K-12 | V 30267 | Chevy Astro Van | Firewise |
| K-15 | V30217 | Ford F-250 P/U | Kenai Retardant Site |
| K-16 | V32354 | 1996 Chevy 4X4 3/4 ton ext cab p/u | Prevention |
| Timber | | | |
| K-01 | V34217 | 2003 Ford Expedition | Timber |
| K-02 | V31481 | 1994 Ford 4x4 3/4 ton ext cab p/u | FPA, Timber |
| Miscellaneous | | | |
| ATV | 5 | ATV 's | |

